

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 24, 2006 has been received and carefully studied.

The Examiner newly rejects claims 1-3, 6-7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) (sic, 103(a)) as being unpatentable over Ishii et al., JP 08-194968 in view of Tokuda et al., JP 2002-092961. The Examiner states that Ishii et al. disclose the protective coating agent for an optical disc produced by coating the memory part of the disc with a radiation curing resin composition containing more than one (meth)acrylate in a molecule. The Examiner adds that the curing resin composition includes the epoxy (meth)acrylate, mono and polyfunctional acrylate monomers, and a photopolymerization initiator, and that the resin compositions of Examples 1-3 of Ishii et al. do not have a urethane (meth)acrylate. The Examiner admits that Ishii et al. do not disclose a total reflection film or a translucent reflection film comprising silver or silver alloy, and cites Tokuda et al. as disclosing this feature. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to incorporate into Ishii's adhesive composition a silver compound or alloy when two sheets of the disc substrate are stuck together by the adhesive for the optical disc as taught by Tokuda in order to obtain an adhesive that can impart durability and hardened material thereof in a sticking type optical disc having a semitransparent reflecting film.

The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ishii discloses a protective coating agent for a high density optical disc, which comprises as essential components a

mono-functional monomer and an oligomer comprising two or more (meth)acrylates, and further may comprise as an optional component a photopolymerization initiator. As the Examiner points out, Ishii does not suggest the addition of urethane (meth)acrylate, and the working examples thereof do not comprise it.

The coating agent shown in the working example of Ishii comprises component (A) (EPA-1), IRGACURE 651, component (E) (MANDA: hydroxypivalic acid neopentyl glycol diacrylate), component (C) (TC-101: tetrahydrofurfuryl acrylate) and a photopolymerization initiator, that are essential components of the present invention. However, Ishii does not disclose or suggest the addition of component (D) ((meth)acrylate phosphate compound) which is also an essential component of the present invention, and the working examples of Ishii do not comprise the component (D). Accordingly, Ishii does not disclose or suggest the present invention as claimed.

Furthermore, Ishii does not disclose or suggest bonding the optical discs, nor the avoidance of the generation of voids during the manufacturing process of the disc, nor the electrical resistivity of the optical discs.

Tokuda does not supply the above deficiencies of Ishii. Tokuda is related to the adhesive for optical discs having a reflection film comprising silver or silver alloy, comprising urethane (meth)acrylate as an essential component, whereas the instant claims exclude urethane (meth)acrylate. Furthermore, Tokuda does not recite the avoidance of the generation of voids

during the manufacturing process of the disc or the electrical resistivity of the optical discs.

Thus, the combination of Ishii and Tokuda does not suggest the instant as invention as claimed. Furthermore, neither reference discloses or suggests the advantageous effects of the present invention. Ishii does not show the advantageous effects as an adhesive, and neither reference shows the unexpected effects of no void generation during the manufacturing process of the optical disc having a reflection film comprising silver or silver alloy, of imparting durability similar to an optical disc having a reflection film comprising gold, and of providing an optical disc having the reflection film comprising silver or silver alloy with low electric resistivity (Examples 1 to 4).

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing.

Respectfully submitted,

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